WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound contents delivery method using a plurality of contents servers to which a plurality of contents are distributed to be stored in their contents storage units, respectively, a management server for managing delivery of contents to a portable terminal and an intermediate apparatus for mediating supply of contents from said plurality of contents servers to said management server so that said plurality of contents distributed to said plurality of contents servers are partially fetched as contents portions to combine the fetched contents portions according to time series for delivering compound contents produced through the combination thereof to said portable terminal, said method comprising:

an instruction information production step of, in said management server, producing instruction information for the compound contents production on the basis of a substance of said compound contents to be produced;

a contents portion fetching instruction step of, in said intermediate apparatus, instructing said contents servers to fetch contents portions needed for the compound contents production according to said instruction information produced in said instruction information production step;

a compound contents element acquisition step of, in each of said contents servers, acquiring compound contents element converted in encoding format for said portable terminal in corresponding relation to said contents portion which is an object of the fetching instruction in said contents portion fetching instruction step to return the acquired compound contents element to said intermediate apparatus;

a production step of, in said intermediate apparatus, combining said compound contents elements returned from said contents servers according to time series on the basis of instruction information from said management server to produce compound contents oriented to said portable terminal; and

a delivery step of, in said management server, delivering said compound contents produced in said production step to said portable terminal.

2. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 1, wherein said management server is made to store and manage said compound contents returned from said intermediate apparatus in corresponding relation to said instruction information in the past in a state associated with said instruction information, and said method further comprises:

an identity decision step of making a decision as to the identity between said instruction information

produced in said instruction information production step and said instruction information stored in said management server; and

an in-management-server first control step of, when the decision result in said identity decision step shows the produced instruction information is identical with said instruction information stored and managed in said management server, using said compound contents stored in a state associated with the stored instruction information as said compound contents to be delivered to said portable terminal in said delivery step and, when the decision shows no identity therebetween, transmitting the produced instruction information to said intermediate apparatus.

3. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of intermediate apparatuses each identical with said intermediate apparatus are provided, and in said identity decision step, a decision is additionally made as to the degree of similarity between the produced instruction information and said instruction information stored in said management server, and in said in-management-server first control step, when a decision result in said identity decision step shows that the produced instruction information is not identical with said instruction information stored and managed in said management server, the produced

instruction information is transmitted to said intermediate apparatus to which compound contents information is returned with respect to, of said instruction information stored and managed in said management server, said instruction information which is decided to be most similar to the produced instruction information.

4. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of intermediate apparatuses each identical with said intermediate apparatus are provided, and in said management server, a processing load monitoring step is implemented to monitor a processing load in said converting unit and an in-management-server second control step is provided to transmit said instruction information produced in said instruction information production step to said converting unit having a smallest processing load on the basis of a monitor result from said processing load monitoring step.

5. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 1, wherein, in said compound contents element acquisition step, said intermediate apparatus stores and manages said compound contents elements returned from said contents server in the past, and said contents portion fetching instruction step includes an

in-intermediate-unit duplication decision step of obtaining information for specifying contents portion needed for the compound contents production from said instruction information and making a decision as to the degree of duplication in substance between said contents portion needed for the compound contents production and said compound contents element stored and managed in said intermediate apparatus; and

a fetching instruction execution step for giving a fetching instruction to said contents server on the basis of a decision result in said in-intermediate-unit duplication decision step.

6. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 5, wherein, in said fetching instruction execution step, on the basis of the decision result in said in-intermediate-unit duplication decision step, said fetching instruction is not given to said contents server with respect to a duplicate portion between a substance of said contents portion needed for the compound contents production and said compound contents element stored and managed, and a compound contents element corresponding to said duplicate portion is used in producing said compound contents in said production step.

7. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 5, wherein, in said fetching instruction execution

step, on the basis of the decision result in said in-intermediate-unit duplication decision step, when the substance of a portion of the contents portion needed for the compound contents production is duplicate with respect to said compound contents element stored and managed, said fetching instruction on a contents portion non-duplicate with respect to said compound contents element is given to said contents server.

8. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 1, wherein each of said contents servers stores and manages said compound contents element returned in said compound contents element acquisition step in the past and said compound contents element acquisition step includes:

an in-contents-server duplication decision step of making a decision on the degree of the duplication in substance between the contents portion which is an object of said fetching instruction in said contents portion fetching instruction step and said compound contents element stored and managed in said contents server; and

a compound contents element reply step of, on the basis of a decision result in said in-contents-server duplication decision step, fetching said contents portion, which is an object of said fetching instruction, from said contents storage unit and making a conversion into an encoding format for said portable terminal to

return it as a compound content element to said intermediate apparatus.

9. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 8, wherein, in said compound contents element reply step, on the basis of the decision result in said in-contents-server duplication decision step, of said contents portion which is an object of said fetching instruction in said contents portion fetching instruction step, a portion duplicate in substance with respect to said compound contents element stored and managed is not fetched from said contents storage unit while a compound contents element corresponding to the substance duplicate portion is returned to said intermediate apparatus.

10. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 8, wherein, in said compound contents element reply step, on the basis of the decision result in said in-contents-server duplication decision step, of said contents portion which is an object of said fetching instruction in said contents portion fetching instruction step, a portion non-duplicate in substance with respect to said compound contents element stored and managed is fetched from said contents storage unit and, after a conversion is made into an encoding format for said portable terminal, the non-duplicate portion

is returned as a compound contents element to said intermediate apparatus.

11. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 1, wherein, in said contents server, on the basis of popularity, important event and the like, a contents portion expected to be an object of said fetching instruction in said contents portion fetching instruction step is stored and managed as said compound contents element in advance.

12. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 1, wherein each of said contents distributed to said plurality of contents servers includes data having a time zone including voice data or motion picture data and said contents portion is arranged through the use of the voice or motion picture data partially extracted from said time zone.

13. A compound contents delivery method according to claim 12, wherein, in said contents portion fetching instruction step in said intermediate apparatus, said contents portion for the compound contents production which is an object of said fetching instruction is designated by designating information about a service location on the internet having said contents portion,

a time zone of said contents portion, a media assortment or an encoding condition after the encoding conversion.

14. A compound contents delivery system comprising a plurality of contents servers to which a plurality of contents are distributed to be stored in their contents storage units, respectively, a management server for managing delivery of contents to a portable terminal and an intermediate apparatus for mediating supply of contents from said plurality of contents servers to said management server so that said plurality of contents distributed to said plurality of contents servers are partially fetched as contents portions to combine the fetched contents portions according to time series for delivering compound contents produced through the combination thereof from said management server to said portable terminal,

said management server including:

a compound contents acquisition unit for acquiring said compound contents on the basis of instruction information for production of said compound contents which is produced on the basis of a substance of said compound contents to be produced; and

a delivery unit for delivering said compound contents acquired by said compound contents acquisition unit to said portable terminal, and

said intermediate apparatus including:

a contents portion fetching instruction unit for instructing said contents servers to fetch contents portions needed for the compound contents production when receiving a request for the compound contents production and said instruction information from said compound contents acquisition unit;

a production unit for combining compound contents elements returned from said contents servers according to time series on the basis of said instruction information from said management server to produce compound contents oriented to said portable terminal;

a compound contents outputting unit for outputting said compound contents produced in said production unit to said compound contents acquisition unit of said management server, and

said each of said contents servers including:

a compound contents element acquisition unit for acquiring a compound contents element, in which an encoding format is converted for said portable terminal, corresponding to said content portion which is an object of said fetching instruction in said contents portion fetching instruction unit to return the acquired compound contents element to said intermediate apparatus.

15. A compound contents delivery system according to claim 14, wherein said management server includes an in-management-server storage management unit for storing

and managing compound contents returned from said intermediate apparatus in corresponding relation to said instruction information in a state where said compound contents are associated with said instruction information.

16. A compound contents delivery system according to claim 14, wherein said intermediate apparatus includes an in-intermediate-apparatus storage management unit for storing and managing said compound contents element returned from said contents server through the use of said compound contents element acquisition unit.

17. A compound contents delivery system according to claim 14, wherein each of said contents servers includes a storage management unit for storing and managing a compound content element from said compound contents element acquisition unit.